



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Statement on OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan**

As delivered by Ambassador Julie Finley  
to the Special Permanent Council, Vienna  
June 30, 2006

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Once again I want to thank you and your staff for your tireless work to bring about the conclusion to this matter. I also want to express once again my thanks for the tireless efforts by the Uzbek delegation with regard to arriving at some kind of conclusion in this matter.

The United States is committed to seeing that there be a good, helpful, and effective mission that will benefit the people of Uzbekistan – as we know the government of Uzbekistan also wants. To be effective, that mission does need to maintain some form of independence.

There has appeared, thankfully, as we have gone through these negotiations, willingness on the part of all sides, it seems to me, to reach a solution. When one is able to reach a solution, it has been because the sides have been willing to negotiate and compromise on certain things. I think this is a lesson that might be applied to certain other matters that the OSCE is involved with, such as the unresolved conflicts.

At some point in negotiations one realizes that one is not going to get exactly what he or she wants in entirety and that is where compromise comes in. At some point one has to move to trust, and that is where the United States feels we are now with the Government of Uzbekistan. We have moved to trust. We will also be verifying.

We are accepting this text very reluctantly and with a sense of concern that the Government of Uzbekistan seems to be suspicious of an OSCE presence. Perhaps in this new arrangement a greater sense of trust will develop between the Government of Uzbekistan and the OSCE presence there.

The next six months will be a test for the OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan, and will also be a test for the sincerity of the Government of Uzbekistan.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.